

Capacity crisis: Data centres running out of space and are on power overload; high density devices to blame

Aperture Research Institute finds physical space is running out and the average power density of racks is rising to levels that increase the risk of outage

London, UK - April 30, 2007 – 43% of data centres are running out of physical space and power density in racks is at an all time high, a survey by the Aperture Research Institute has discovered.

The Aperture Research Institute is the first organisation dedicated to researching data centres, their challenges, and best practice management. It was established by Aperture Technologies Inc., the leading global provider of software for managing the physical infrastructure of data centres.

The survey of over 100 enterprise data managers, representing over 600 data centres, covered a spectrum of company sizes and industries, including banking, insurance, healthcare, data services, retail, and telecommunications.

Nearly 90% of those surveyed indicated that 75% or more of the space in their data centres was already allocated to IT equipment. More than 43% of respondents reported that 90% or more of their data centres were in use, which may suggest that future needs are being planned with the rapid growth in processing and storage across all industries.

Compounding these concerns is the fact that servers and racks are using more power than ever before. Nearly 38% of respondents said that their average rack was using from 7 to 18 kilowatts or more. As well as putting pressure on the power supply infrastructure, such a power high density will also increase demand for cooling and increase the risk of downtime.

One of the reasons power density has risen is the use of blade servers. Blade servers offer a smaller physical footprint, allowing more servers to be placed in a rack, but they require more power and cooling. Of the respondents, 90% reported that their companies had blade servers in their data centres, but nearly 74% said that less than a fifth of their new servers would be blade servers.

The increased complexity of these blade servers and the intense demands of power and cooling also increase the risk of human error, which was cited by over 57% of respondents as a leading cause of outages. As many as 18% of respondents said they didn't know what the average power density of their racks was, suggesting they didn't have the tools or process to manage capacity and are at an even greater risk of outage due to error.

"Data centres are facing a time of crisis because of the increased demands on their physical resources and management," said Steve Yellen, vice president of marketing at Aperture. "There's a gap between IT and data centre facilities that's resulting in a rapid increase in high density equipment without thinking about the ability of a data centre to reliably support that capacity. With these data centres stretching thinner and thinner, more and more instances of downtime and failure are likely to occur."

The Aperture Research Institute’s latest research note, entitled “The Data Center Boom Continues As Businesses Turn To High-Density Devices”, is available at http://www.aperture.com/about/research_institute/ari_high_density_032607.pdf.

For further details please contact:

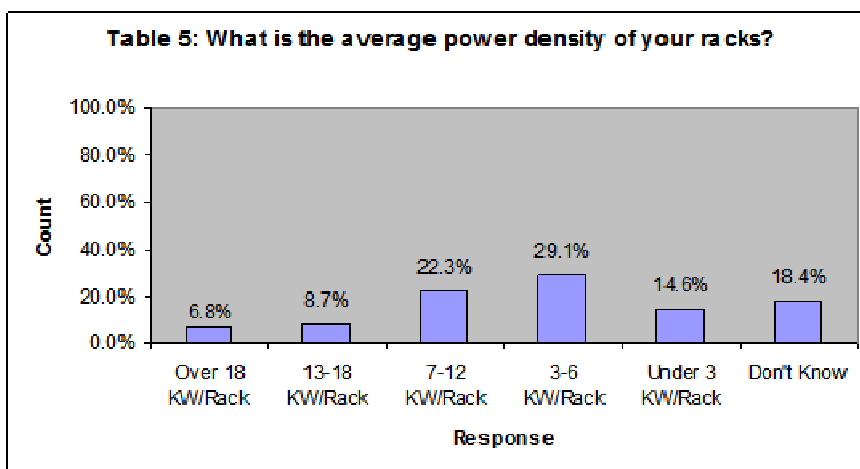
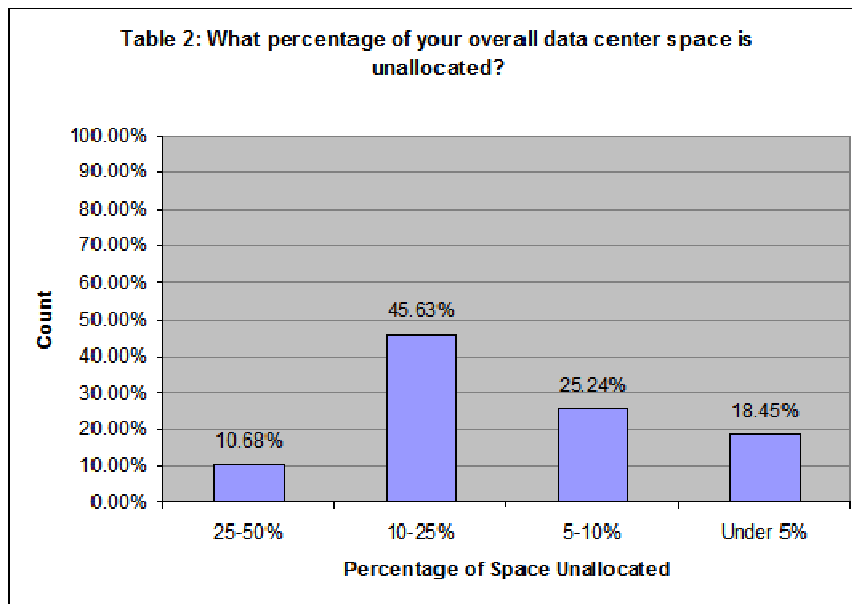
Elissa Fry or Max McConnell

Prompt Communications on behalf of Aperture

Tel: +44 (0)20 8996 1646 / Out of hours: +44 (0)7780 660080

efry@prompt-communications.com / mmcconnell@prompt-communications.com

Selected results from the report



APERTURE CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

9 Riverbend Drive South
P.O. Box 4906
Stamford, CT 06907

tel 203.357.0800
800.346.6828
fax 203.357.0809

www.aperture.com

About Aperture Research Institute™

Aperture Research Institute has been established to share expertise and market intelligence about data centres and how they are managed. Aperture Research Institute is a wholly owned subsidiary of Aperture Technologies.

About Aperture

Aperture is the leading global provider of software for managing the physical infrastructure of data centres. Aperture's solutions reduce operational risk and improve efficiency through the visual management of data centre resources. Aperture delivers the best practice processes that enable organisations to take control of an increasingly complex physical infrastructure including equipment, space, power, cooling, network and storage.

With over 20 years of experience, Aperture provides organisations with the information required to optimise their data center operations, delivering better services at the lowest cost. Aperture's customers include the world's largest companies, half of which are Fortune 1000 and Global 500 organisations.

For more information, please go to: <http://www.aperture.com>

###

Aperture and Aperture Research Institute are trademarks of Aperture Technologies, Inc. All other trademarks and company names mentioned are the property of their respective owners. Copyright © 2007 Aperture Technologies, Inc. All rights reserved.